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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67063

Kazunori OZAWA

Appln. No.: 09/985,853

Group Art Unit: 2641

Confirmation No.: 4465

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: November 6, 2001

For: SPEECH DECODER CAPABLE OF DECODING BACKGROUND NOISE SIGNAL
WITH HIGH QUALITY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Laflamme et al., "16 KBPS Wideband Speech Coding Technique Based on Algebraic CELP", *Proc. ICASSP 91*, Vol. 1, May 14-17, 1991, pp. 13-16. This reference was previously submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement dated January 28, 2002.
2. U.K. Patent Application No. 2 312 360 A, published October 22, 1997, to Olympus Optical Company, Limited.
3. European Patent Application No. 0 863 500 A2, published September 9, 1998, to Mitsubishi Denki Kabushiki Kaisha.
4. A. MURASHIMA et al., "A Post-Processing Technique to Improve Coding Quality of CELP Under Background Noise", *IEEE*, 2000, pages 102-104.

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5. A. MURASHIMA et al., "An improvement of the Wideband Speech Codec under Background Noise Conditions", *Proceedings of the 1999 Information and Systems Society Conference of IEICE*, D-14-4, page 213.
6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 10-083200. This reference was previously submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement dated January 28, 2002.
7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2000-235400, published August 29, 2000.
8. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 09-244695. This reference was previously submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement dated January 28, 2002.
9. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 11-175083, published July 2, 1999.
10. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 9-54600, published February 25, 1997.

One copy of each of the listed documents except items 1, 6, and 8 above, is submitted herewith. Items 1-3 are identified in a European Search Report dated October 8, 2003, a copy of which is also submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents (items 5, 7 and 9-10 above), Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Japanese Office Action dated November 5, 2003 with an English translation of the pertinent

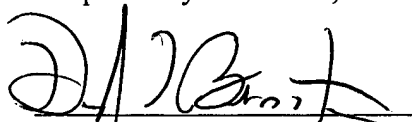
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portions thereof, which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: January 8, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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of

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Complete if Known

Application Number	09/985,853
Confirmation Number	4465
Filing Date	November 06, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kazunori OZAWA
Art Unit	2641
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	Q67063

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		GB	2 312 360	A	10-22-1997	Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.	
		EP	0 863 500	A2	09-09-1998	Mitsubishi Denki Kabushiki Kaisha	
		JP	2000-235400	A	08-29-2000		No
		JP	11-175083	A	07-02-1999		No
		JP	09-54600	A	02-25-1997		No

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		A. MURASHIMA et al., "A Post-Processing Technique to Improve Coding Quality of CELP Under Background Noise", <i>IEEE</i> , 2000, pages 102-104	
		A. MURASHIMA et al., "An improvement of the Wideband Speech Codec under Background Noise Conditions", <i>Proceedings of the 1999 Information and Systems Society Conference of IEICE</i> , D-14-4, page 213	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.